

What is claimed is:

1. A monobore wellbore comprising: /

a first casing positioned within the wellbore, the first casing having a first inner diameter and a lap region in a downhole end thereof; and

a second casing positioned within the wellbore such that an uphole end of the second casing is positioned within the lap region of the first casing, the second casing having a second inner diameter that is substantially the same as the first inner diameter, the uphole end of the second casing being coupled to the lap region of the first casing when the first and second casings are positioned within the wellbore.

2. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 1 wherein the uphole end of the second casing forms a mechanical connection and a hydraulic seal with the lap region of the first casing.

3. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 1 wherein the uphole end of the second casing and lap region of the first casing are physically deformed.

4. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 1 wherein the uphole end of the second casing and lap region of the first casing are physically deformed by a plastic deformation process.

5. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 1 wherein the uphole end of the second casing forms a metal-to-metal seal with the lap region of the first casing.

6. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 1 wherein a crimping member is used to radially expands the uphole end of the second casing into the lap region of the first casing.

7. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 1 further comprising a sealing material positioned between the uphole end of the second casing and the lap region of the first casing.

8. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 7 wherein the sealing material comprises an elastomeric sealant.

9. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 1 wherein the first casing is expanded to the first inner diameter when the first casing is positioned within the wellbore.

10. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 1 wherein the lap region of the first casing has a third inner diameter that is larger than the first inner diameter.

11. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 10 wherein the lap region of the first casing is expanded to the third inner diameter when the first casing is positioned within the wellbore.

12. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 1 wherein the second casing is passed through the first casing prior to coupling the first and second casing together.

13. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 1 wherein the second casing is expanded to the second inner diameter when the second casing is positioned within the wellbore.

14. A monobore multilateral wellbore comprising: /
a first casing positioned within a main wellbore, the first casing having a first diameter, a lap region and a window; and

a second casing positioned within a branch wellbore such that an uphole end of the second casing extends through the window into the lap region of the first casing, the second casing having a second inner diameter that is substantially the same as the first inner diameter, the uphole end of the second casing being coupled to the lap region of the first casing when the first and second casings are positioned within the multilateral wellbore.

15. The monobore multilateral wellbore as recited in claim 14 wherein the uphole end of the second casing forms a mechanical connection and a hydraulic seal with the lap region of the first casing.

16. The monobore multilateral wellbore as recited in claim 14 wherein the uphole end of the second casing and lap region of the first casing are physically deformed.

17. The monobore multilateral wellbore as recited in claim 14 wherein the uphole end of the second casing and lap region of the first casing are physically deformed by a plastic deformation process.

18. The monobore multilateral wellbore as recited in claim 14 wherein the uphole end of the second casing forms a metal-to-metal seal with the lap region of the first casing.

19. The monobore multilateral wellbore as recited in claim 14 wherein a crimping member is used to radially expand the uphole end of the second casing into the lap region of the first casing.

20. The monobore multilateral wellbore as recited in claim 14 further comprising a sealing material positioned between the uphole end of the second casing and the lap region of the first casing.

21. The monobore multilateral wellbore as recited in claim 20 wherein the sealing material comprises an elastomeric sealant.

22. The monobore multilateral wellbore as recited in claim 14 wherein the window is pre-milled.

23. The monobore multilateral wellbore as recited in claim 14 wherein the window is cut through the first casing by milling.

24. The monobore multilateral wellbore as recited in claim 14 wherein the first casing is expanded to the first inner diameter when the first casing is positioned within the multilateral wellbore.

25. The monobore multilateral wellbore as recited in claim 14 wherein the lap region of the first casing has a third inner diameter that is larger than the first inner diameter.

26. The monobore multilateral wellbore as recited in claim 25 wherein the lap region of the first casing is expanded to the third inner diameter when the first casing is positioned within the multilateral wellbore.

27. The monobore multilateral wellbore as recited in claim 14 wherein the second casing is passed through the first casing prior to coupling the first and second casings together.

28. The monobore multilateral wellbore as recited in claim 14 wherein the second casing is expanded to the second inner diameter when the second casing is positioned within the multilateral wellbore.

29. A monobore wellbore of adjoining wellbores comprising:

a first casing positioned within a first wellbore, the first casing having a first inner diameter and a lap region; and

a second casing positioned within a second wellbore that adjoins the first wellbore such that a downhole end of the second casing is positioned within the lap region of the first casing, the second casing having a second inner diameter that is substantially the same as the first inner diameter, the downhole end of the second casing being coupled to the lap region of the first casing when the first casing is positioned within the first wellbore and the second casing is positioned within the second wellbore.

30. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 29 wherein the downhole end of the second casing forms a mechanical connection and a hydraulic seal with the lap region of the first casing.

31. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 29 wherein the downhole end of the second casing and lap region of the first casing are physically deformed.

32. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 29 wherein the downhole end of the second casing and lap region of the first casing are physically deformed by a plastic deformation process.

33. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 29 wherein the second casing intersects the first casing through a window in the first casing forming a junction therewith.

34. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 29 wherein the first casing is a main wellbore casing of a multilateral wellbore.

35. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 29 wherein the first casing is a branch wellbore casing of a multilateral wellbore.

36. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 29 wherein the second casing is a main wellbore casing of a multilateral wellbore.

37. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 29 wherein the second casing is a branch wellbore casing of a multilateral wellbore.

38. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 29 wherein the first and second casings are branch wellbore casings of multilateral wellbores.

39. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 29 wherein the first and second casings are main wellbore casings of multilateral wellbores.

40. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 29 wherein the first casing is a main wellbore casing and second casing is a branch wellbore casings of multilateral wellbores.

41. The monobore wellbore as recited in claim 29 wherein the first casing is a branch wellbore casing and second casing is a main wellbore casings of multilateral wellbores.

42. A method of forming a connection between adjoining wellbores comprising the steps of:

installing a first casing within a first wellbore, the first casing having a first inner diameter and a lap region; installing a second casing within a second wellbore that adjoins the first wellbore such that a downhole end of the second casing is positioned within the lap region of the first casing, the second casing having a second inner diameter that is substantially the same as the first inner diameter; and

coupling the downhole end of the second casing to the lap region of the first casing downhole.

43. The method as recited in claim 42 wherein the coupling step further comprises forming a mechanical connection and a hydraulic seal between the second casing and the lap region of the first casing.

44. The method as recited in claim 42 wherein the coupling step further comprises physically deforming the downhole end of the second casing and lap region of the first casing.

45. The method as recited in claim 42 wherein the coupling step further comprises plastically deforming the downhole end of the second casing and lap region of the first casing.

46. The method as recited in claim 42 wherein the installing a second casing step further comprises intersecting the second casing with the first casing through a window in the first casing forming a junction therewith.

47. The method as recited in claim 42 wherein the installing a first casing step further comprises installing a main wellbore casing in a multilateral wellbore.

48. The method as recited in claim 42 wherein the installing a first casing step further comprises installing a branch wellbore casing in a multilateral wellbore.

49. The method as recited in claim 42 wherein the installing a second casing step further comprises installing a main wellbore casing of a multilateral wellbore.

50. The method as recited in claim 42 wherein the installing a second casing step further comprises installing a branch wellbore casing in a multilateral wellbore.